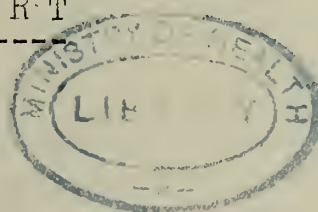


LEISTON - c u n - S I Z E W E L L
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L .

T H E
A N N U A L R E P O R T



O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H .

F O R T H E Y E A R E N D E D 31 s t D E C E M B E R , 1948 .

To the Chairman and Members of the
Leiston-cum-Sizewell Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report
of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1948.

The Report has been prepared on the lines indicated
by the Minister under Ministry of Health Circular 3/49.

The year was free from any outbreak of serious
epidemic disease, and the birth rate and death rate compare
favourable with that of England and Wales.

The housing shortage is often attributed to the war
years with enemy bombing and general deterioration, but there
is another factor which is often overlooked and this factor
is the social security legislation of recent years.

A dozen years ago the old age pensioner at 10/- a
week could not continue to pay the rent and so we had a group
of unfortunate people known as the "aged poor". Today, with
a more generous scale of pensions, food subsidies and rent
restriction, persons on reaching pension age no longer need
to vacate their homes. This is most desirable, but it
sometimes happens that an old person is left alone in a house
too large to keep clean or warm, and should the house become
unsanitary it becomes the unpleasant duty of the Local
Authority to remove the occupant. It would appear that there
is a need for small flatlet type houses for these old age
pensioners, at rents sufficiently low to encourage them to
vacate the larger houses which are in demand for the younger
family units, especially for the younger ex-serviceman who,
not having been a householder in the pre-war years, often
has to live in overcrowded conditions. It would appear that
the present relatively generous allotment of houses to old
people is being made not at the expense of the tax-payer, but
at the expense of the younger wage earner, whose dissatisfac-
tion with the state of affairs is sometimes manifest in the
unofficial strikes of recent months.

I would like to record my appreciation to Dr. Burns and
the members and officers of the Council for their co-operation
and support during 1948.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

J.L. Patton M.B. Ch.B.
D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area. (in acres).....4,466.
Registrar General's estimate of
resident population (mid-1948).....4,047.
Approximate number of inhabited
houses at end of 1948.....1278
Rateable Value..... I9 705
Sum represented by a penny rate..... £80

VITAL STATISTICS.

	TOTAL.	Male.	Female.	Birth rate per 1000 of the est. resident population.
LIVE (Legitimate)				
BIRTHS (Illegitimate)	59	31	28	16.6
	5	3	2	(England & Wales 17.9)
-----				Rate per 1000 Total
Stillbirths.	TOTAL	Male	Female	(Live and Still Births)
	0	0	0	
-----				Death rate per 1000
Deaths.	TOTAL	Male	Female	of the est. resident
	48	24	24	population.
				11.9
				(England & Wales 10.8)

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES (HEADINGS 29&30 of THE
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST):-

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (Live & Still) Births.
No. 29. Puerperal & Post- abortive sepsis	NIL	NIL
No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes	NIL	

Death Rate of Infants under one year:-

All Infants per 1000 live births.....	15.6
Legitimate infants per 1000 Legitimate Live births.....	15.6
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illitimate live births.....	0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....	5.
Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	7.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	7.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....	1.

SECTION 47 of the NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was not necessary to use the powers under this Section to remove any person to hospital.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE DISTRICT.

I. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

(a) Medical Officer of Health.

Wm.M. BURNS, M.B., B. Ch., D.P.H., D.T.M.
Also Assistant County M.O. and
M.O.H. for two Neighbouring
districts. (Resigned 30th June, 1948).

J.L. PATTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(b) Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. R. FAIRCLOUGH, M.R. San. I.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These are available at the County Laboratory, Bond Street, Ipswich, except for the chemical analysis of water which is carried out by the Public Analyst, Mr. W. Lincoln Sutton of Norwich.

3. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council is the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority. An Assistant County Medical Officer attends the Infant Welfare centre on the first and third Thursdays of the month.

The popularity of this centre owes much to the enthusiasm of the lady voluntary helpers and the nursing staff, and it is hoped that the new clinic at Daneway will soon emerge from its bonds of red tape.

The average attendance in 1948 was 34 infants per session.

The Home Help service established under the National Health Service Act administered by East Suffolk County has not been too successful in Leiston because so many women workers are absorbed by light industry and the holiday trade. Special consideration should be given to Leiston such as the development of a "good neighbour" scheme as in North Riding of Yorkshire, whereby neighbours

THE
JOURNAL
OF
THE
AMERICAN
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
CHICAGO, ILL.
1914

THE
JOURNAL
OF
THE
AMERICAN
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
CHICAGO, ILL.
1914

THE
JOURNAL
OF
THE
AMERICAN
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
CHICAGO, ILL.
1914

THE
JOURNAL
OF
THE
AMERICAN
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
CHICAGO, ILL.
1914

are encouraged to send help in case of sickness for payment if necessary.

4. WATER.

The water supply is barely satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological examinations have been carried out, one of these, 24th November, 1948, gave a bad result as follows:-

Plate count yeastral agar 3 days at Room
Temperature aerobically.....81 per mil.
Aerobically 2 days at 37°C.....72 per mil.

Probable number of coliform bacillie.
MacConkey 2 days at 37°C.....25 per 100 mil.

Faecal coli not found.

"Bacteriological findings show no evidence of harmful pollution though the coliform count is at the maximum tolerated point for even a shallow well. For a town supply the findings are very poor indeed."

Since this report chlorination of supply has been arranged.

No chemical analyses have been carried out.
The water is not Plumbo solvent.
No action has been taken with regard to contamination.

About 90% of the population has a direct supply from the mains and there are a few still on stand pipe supply.

5. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

New works were carried out during the year at the two Housing sites.

6. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Pre-school population (0-4)	357
School population (5-14)	619
% pre-school children immunised	55.5
% all children immunised	70.7
"Booster" treatment 1948	61

No case of Diphtheria was notified in 1948.

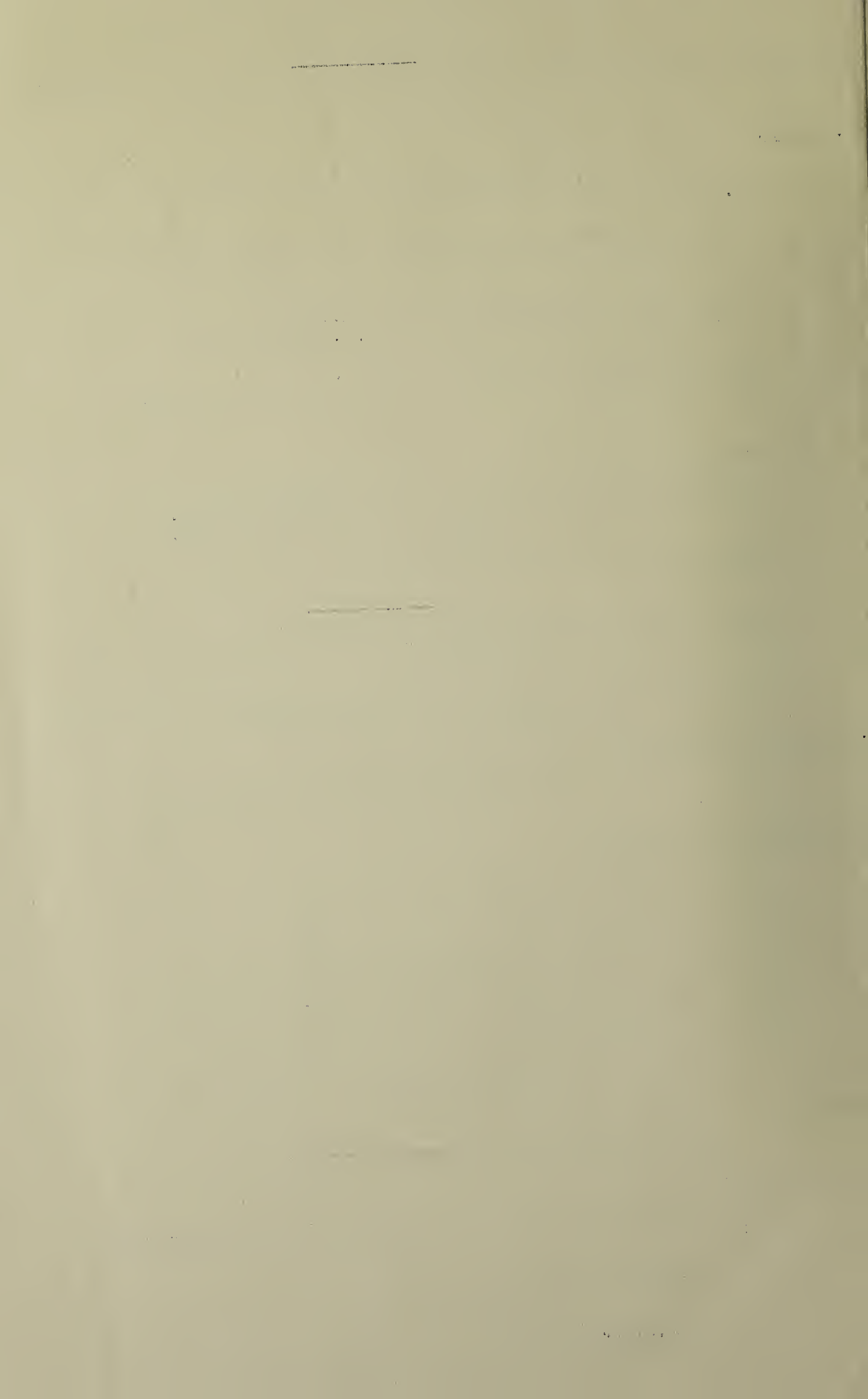
SCABIES.

No cases of scabies were discovered in 1948.

TUBERCULOSIS.

On the 31st December, 1948, the numbers of the Register were as follows:-

<u>Males.</u>	Pulmonary	7
	Non-pulmonary	1
<u>Females.</u>	Pulmonary	1
	Non-pulmonary	2



The preponderance of Male Pulmonary cases is perhaps due to the inclusion of some cases discovered during their Service life as a result of the stress of war or prison camp life, other service cases were brought to light by routine mass radiography.

During 1948 two new cases were notified - one pulmonary and one non-pulmonary.

MEAT AND FOODS.

Shops, stalls and vehicles and places where food is prepared have been inspected from time to time.

MEAT.

Mr. R. Fairclough, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, attends on a part-time basis at the Leiston Slaughterhouse.

No ante-mortem inspections are carried out.

The carcasses are all inspected post-mortem and the table below shows the large amount of work done in the rather small slaughterhouse.

It has not been possible to give detailed records for 1948 as required by the table, to keep such a record accurately we would need either a full time Meat Inspector or a larger slaughterhouse where the organs of each slaughtered animal could be displayed for the Inspectors visits.

Carcases Inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	907		493	1196	125
Number inspected	907		493	1196	125

All diseases except tuberculosis whole carcasses condemned

I

I

4

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.

Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than * T.B. Separate record not available.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs.
--	-----------------------------	------	--------	------------------	-------

Tuberculosis only whole carcasses condemned *

3

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.

Percentage of the * number inspected affected with tuberculosis

Total weight of meat and offal condemned (including whole carcasses) tons. Cwts. Qrs. Lbs.

5

13

2

17

see text. *

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

There was no cases of food poisoning reported in 1948 in Leiston U.D.

9. The Administration of Factories Act, 1937.

	Number on register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections I,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	15	23	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	1	0	0	0
Other premises	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	16	23	0	0

Cases in which Defects were found - Nil.
Outwork - No outworkers are registered.

1948.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Scarlet Fever.....	7
Whooping Cough.....	9.
Measles.....	43.
Diphtheria.....	1. (not confirmed)
Pneumonia.....	1.
Erysipelas.....	5.
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	-.
Malaria.....	1. (Contracted abroad)
Infective Hepatitis.....	1.
Paratyphoid.....	-.

